

# UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

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School of Medicine  
Department of Physiology  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6085

July 17, 1986

Secretary  
The Council for Tobacco Research-USA, Inc.  
900 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10022

Dear Sir or Madam:

The University of Pennsylvania will honor the late Julius H. Comroe, Jr. M.D. during March 26-29, 1987 in Philadelphia with a symposium recognizing his substantial contributions to cardiopulmonary medicine and physiology. A complete program is enclosed for you. The invited participants are outstanding and of international repute. We are seeking your support to make this event possible.

Dr. Julius Comroe was a recipient of a research grant from your Council when he was at this University. My information is that there were also frequent consultations between him and the Council.

For over 40 years, Dr. Comroe provided truly unique and powerfully influential leadership as a researcher, educator, administrator, and writer - first at the University of Pennsylvania and then as the founder and first Director of the Cardiovascular Research Institute, University of California, San Francisco. Hundreds of biomedical scientists - Ph.D.'s and M.D.'s - from all over the world have trained at the University of Pennsylvania and CRVI. Virtually every physician concerned with cardio-pulmonary medicine and physiology is familiar with his classic publications, The Lung and Physiology of Respiration. Dr. Comroe has written several other books, his more recent being Exploring the Heart (1984). Attesting to his recognition not just in scientific circles was the fact that in 1974 the Congress of the United States, seeking criteria for assigning appropriate funding to basic biomedical research, turned to Dr. Comroe and Dr. Robert Dripps of the University of Pennsylvania for their suggestions. They responded with a landmark study, The Top Ten Clinical Advances in Cardiovascular Pulmonary Medicine and Surgery 1945-1975 (DHEW Publication No (NIH) 78-1521 published in 1977). Another landmark in this respect was his article in Science (vol. 200, 26 May, 1978) entitled "The Road from Research to New Diagnosis and Therapy."

The American Physiological Society is one of the sponsors of the Symposium. The Symposium proceedings will be published by one of the following publishers: The American Physiological Society, Oxford University Press or University of Pennsylvania Press. We are committed to seeing that it does appear in press with the particular aim of wider dissemination of knowledge.

Dr. Edward Stemmler in his capacity as the Dean of the School of Medicine, has offered to help support the conference. We have applied to the National Institutes of Health for support but their conference grant is extremely restricted at this time. We are presently approaching a very limited number of potential patrons from the Foundations and Corporations. This effort to raise funds is particularly aimed at supporting our invited participants and guests for the symposium. We would be most grateful for your assistance. Our total budget is \$33,000. To date we have received pledges for \$15,000. Your contribution will be much appreciated. Needless to say, your assistance will be acknowledged in the symposium publications which will have wide circulation.

If you need further information, please feel free to contact me (telephone: 898-9100) or Dr. Robert E. Forster, Chairman, Department of Physiology, School of Medicine (telephone: 898-8725). I do hope that you will be able to participate in this effort and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

*S. Lahiri*

Sukhamay Lahiri  
Professor of Physiology  
Chair, Organizing Committee  
Comroe Memorial Symposium

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Enclosure

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